

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CALEDONIA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
CALEDONIA, MINNESOTA
Tuesday, March 20, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Following due call and notice thereof, President Schroeder called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Room, City Hall.

ROLL CALL: Craig Schroeder, President; Members present: Randi Vick, Tom Murphy, Kathy Nelson, Mike Werner, and Harley Meiners. Members absent: Jon Hagerott. Consultants and City Staff present: City Clerk/Administrator Jennifer Feely and Accountant Stephanie Mann. Visitors present: None.

MINUTES OF PAST MEETINGS: Following a brief review, a motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Werner, to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2012 meeting, as presented. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

EDA FINANCIAL UPDATE: City Clerk/Administrator Feely reported \$242,084.24 in the Checking Account, \$16,509.76 in the Small Cities Development Commercial Program, and \$225,574.48 in the DEED and Intermediary Relending Program. Outstanding loan balances currently total \$193,326.87. Following review of the above balances, a motion was made by Member Werner, seconded by Member Meiners, to approve the financial report. The motion was declared carried.

VISITORS AND COMMUNICATIONS. None.

GENERAL EDA: BUSINESS PROJECTS/UPDATES.

A. ACE COMMUNICATIONS. ACE CEO Todd Roesler and ACE Chairman Jim Hoiness were in attendance to provide the history of how ACE first came to Caledonia as well as to discuss the changes in telecommunications to the present time and explain why Caledonia is not part of the ACE cooperative. A lengthy discussion ensued. Essentially, Mr. Roesler and Mr. Hoiness explained that there is no basis at the present time to purchase Qwest in Caledonia and it would be very difficult to make Caledonia part of the cooperative without purchasing Qwest in Caledonia. Mr. Roesler and Mr. Hoiness noted that ACE is in the process of forming an EDA foundation in which communities served by ACE will have an opportunity to apply for funding. Member Nelson inquired as to the percentage of customers through ACE versus Qwest in Caledonia. Mr. Roesler replied that approximately 91% of the access lines are ACE customers. Member Werner inquired as to who benefits from Caledonia ACE profits and revenues. Mr. Roesler and Mr. Hoiness replied that the ACE board makes a decision each year as how the profits will be used. It was noted that most often, the profits are invested in infrastructure in Caledonia. Mr. Roesler and Mr. Hoiness stated that there are approximately 92 employees in Houston County, totaling approximately \$5,000,000 in payroll. Member Murphy inquired as to whether ACE felt that Caledonia was business friendly. Mr. Roesler replied that ACE's experience regarding working with the City on the recent wireless tower project was very positive.

B. REVIEW DRAFT LETTER TO SEND TO SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS. City Clerk/Administrator Feely shared that attached with the agenda was a draft letter to send to service organizations regarding attending an upcoming Community Service Organization Revitalization Meeting to find ways to enhance, revitalize, or create a new community celebration event. Discussion ensued. The consensus was to schedule a meeting for Wednesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

C. EDA BUDGET. City Clerk/Administrator Feely distributed a copy of the 2012 EDA budget. Discussion ensued. The consensus of the EDA board is to take under advisement and discuss at the upcoming EDA meeting.

D. BRAINSTORM WAYS IN WHICH CALEDONIA CAN BE MORE BUSINESS FRIENDLY. Due to the length of the meeting, the consensus of the EDA board was to revisit and discuss this item at the upcoming EDA meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.

A. HIGHWAY BUSINESS DISTRICT BREAKFAST AND MEETING. City Clerk/Administrator Feely shared that a Highway Business District Breakfast and Meeting was scheduled for 8:00 a.m. at the Four Seasons Community Center on Wednesday, March 21. It was noted that President Schroeder, Member Werner, Member Murphy, and City Clerk/Administrator Feely would be in attendance at the meeting.

B. COMMERCIAL REHAB FUNDS. City Clerk/Administrator Feely shared that she recently referred an individuals with a commercial property to contact CEDA regarding applying for commercial rehab funds.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn at 2:25 p.m. was made by Member Werner, seconded by Member Meiners. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried. The next regular meeting of the EDA is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 in the Council Chambers located at City Hall.

Craig Schroeder, President

Jennifer Feely, City Clerk/Administrator